

Message Text

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12

ACTION XMB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ADP-00 EB-11 COME-00 TRSE-00 AID-20

CIAE-00 INR-09 NSAE-00 RSC-01 OMB-01 RSR-01 /061 W

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R 201215 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2614

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINSHASA 2244

PASS ALSO KEARNS, PRESIDENT EXIM BANK FROM AMBASSADOR

E O 11652 GDS

TAGS ETRN EFIN

SUBJ GOZ REQUEST FOR EXIM FINANCING OF COMMERICAL AIRCRAFT

REF: EXIM BANK LETTER FEB 23 TO MINISTER TRANSPORT

1. SINCE EMB RECEIPT MARCH 6 OF EXIM BANK LETTER DATED FEB 23 ADDRESSED TO COMMISSIONER OF STATE FOR TRANSPORT EKETEBI REGARDING EXIM FINANCING OF CERTAIN COMMERCIAL AIRCRAFT FOR USE BH AIR ZAIRE, EKETEBI HAS BEEN OUT OF THE COUNTRY AND WE HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO DELIVER LETTER TO HIM. HOWEVER, CONTENT OF LETTER HAS BEEN DISCUSSED WITH PRES MOBUTU.

2. PRES WAS VERY DISAPPOINTED AT CEILING INDICATED BY LETTER ON PRESENT READINESS EXIM BANK TO ASSIST IN FINANCING COMMERICAL AIRCRAFT HE AND HIS GOVT HAVE DECIDED ARE REQUIRED FOR MODERNIZATION AIR ZAIRE. HE STATED THAT THE GOZ IS CAREFULLY CONSIDERING THE IMPACT OF THE INDEBTEDNESS IT WILL INCUR IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ITS DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS WHICH ARE DEEMED OF TOP PRIORITY. HE ALSO ADDED THAT THESE AIRCRAFT ARE TO BE PURCHASED BY THE GOVT AND THAT THE GOVT WAS PREPARED AND IS FINANCIALLY ABLE TO SUBSIDIZE THEIR OPERATIONS BY AIR ZAIRE IF THIS IS NEEDED DURING AN INITIAL PERIOD. HE ADDED THAT HIS GOVT HAS ALREADY PUBLICLY ANNOUNCED ORDERS FOR FIRST DC-10 TO BE DELIVERED JUNE 1973 AND FIRST 737 AND FIRST 747 TO BE
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DELIVERED IN NOV 1973 WITH TWO MORE 737 S IN EARLY 1974.

3. AFTER EMPHASIZING HIS DISAPPOINTMENT HE INDICATED HE ASSUMED THAT THE MIX OF AIRCRAFT GOZ WOULD ACQUIRE UNDER THE APPROXIMATELY \$75 MILLION CEILING COULD BE DECIDED BY GOZ AND HE PRELIMINARILY MENTIONED THE FOREGOING FIVE AIRCRAFT. HOWEVER, HE EMPHASIZED THAT THIS WOULD HAVE TO BE STUDIED BY HIS GOVT AND ADDED THAT THEY WOULD APPARENTLY HAVE TO SEEK OTHER FINANCING FOR A SECOND DC-10. HE ADDED THAT PERHAPS, AFTER RECEIPT OF THESE FIRST FIVE AIRCRAFT, GOZ COULD RETURN TO SEEK A SECOND TRANCHE OF FINANCING FROM EXIM.

4. EKETEBI RETURNS KINSHASA END OF THIS WEEK AND WE WILL ATTEMPT TO DETERMINE WHAT FURTHER CONSIDERATION HAS BEEN GIVEN THIS MATTER, REPORTING SOONEST.

5. WOULD APPRECIATE BEING INFORMED OF EXIM BANK REACTIONS TO FOREGOING.

VANCE

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition Reason:
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